



Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2014
Ron Parrish, Chair

Roundtable Members Attending: Sean Baldwin, Linda Bartz, John Bolduc, Sean Boyle, Chris Dzadoovsky, Linda Hudson, Andrew Hunt, Karen Knapp, Andrea Kochanowski, Larry Lee, Tony Loupe, Robert McPartlan, Vern Melvin, Ron Parrish, Lisa von Seelen, and Genelle Yost.

Roundtable Members Absent: Terissa Aronson, Carol DeLoach, Mary Locke, Ken Mascara, Richard Stetson, and Wydee'a Wilson.

Guests Attending: Arlease Hall, Clint Sperber and Tonya Andreacchio.\

I. Welcome/Introductions and Pledges

Ron Parrish welcomed all members to the meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance and the Treasure Hunter Pledge were then conducted.

II. April Agenda/March Minutes

Vern Melvin made a motion to accept the April agenda and March minutes, seconded by Bob McPartlan. Motion carried unanimously.

III. February 2014 Financials

Esperanza Morales presented the financials for February. Membership dues received were from the Hunt Foundation of \$10,000.00. Grant revenues were \$7,276.47 from Children's Services Council and the United Way. Other income was \$1,888.00 for Bridges Out of Poverty training, the sale of Kids at Hope books/materials, and Kiss the Pig donations. The Kiss the Pig fundraiser was a success, with a total of \$7,270.65 collected. There was no savings account activity. Total income was \$9,164.47, at 68.44% for the year and expenses were \$34,723.89 at 39.41% for the year

Tony Loupe made a motion to approve the February 2014 financials, seconded by John Bolduc. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Fort Pierce Men's Health Strategic Planning Initiative

New Equity Partners Consulting Group principles Dr. April Young, Rod Petrey, and Anthony Blazebe, as well as Upendo Shabazz-Phillips with Allegany Franciscan Ministries presented on findings on a study they did on men's health in Fort Pierce. They utilized surveys, focus groups, interviews and observation. The rate of incarceration is higher than any other community they have surveyed. These were the toughest group of men ever studied. There was a lot of suspicion, anger, resentment, and apathy. These men have spent a lot of time in prison and can't find work or housing. The number of men that have been tested for HIV is high as every six months a van comes to the neighborhood and tests them. Larry Lee added there is a 75% reduction of HIV/AIDS in that community and the Roundtable initiative regarding HIV/AIDS is paying off. New Equity suggested that maybe a van like the HIV one providing holistic well visits. These men are on the corner or under a tree, hanging out and making everyone else's lives miserable. They are a nuisance.

Summary Profile of Population

- 99% African American
- 38% employed
- 43% have high school diploma
- 59% earned less than \$20K per year

- 7% have college degrees
- 28% earned less than \$10K per year

Summary of Frequencies

- 70% previously incarcerated
- 31% with no place for health care
- 44% have a medical home
- 24% received dental care in previous year
- 17% report depression
- 74% report hypertension
- 19% report diabetes
- 50% smoke
- 93% have been tested for HIV

Digital Divide

- 86% have cell phones
- 38% have smart phones
- 43% have computers in the home with Internet access

Possible Measures: A Way Forward

- Use of technology (mobile phones) to expand access to care
- Append to a provider organization – use the HIV van for a mobile health clinic
- Begin with the self-selected group of under-served men – 40 men were interested in working on a solution
- View as a cutting-edge capital venture – a digital/mobile technology investment – create something new and sell to other communities. Talking with Johns Hopkins now.
- Envision implementation as a high-level tech initiative

V. Community Benchmarks

Christine Epps stated that as Roundtable members and policy makers, they make decisions and whatever is chosen today will be handed to a Steering Committee. The Steering Committee member should be second in command of member agencies and able to make decisions. They will be tasked with doing further research and look deeper into the issues and the “why”. She asked that before they leave today decide who the Steering Committee member will be.

Tonya Andreacchio and Clint Sperber presented statistics in St. Lucie County in the following areas:

Growing a Vibrant Economy – issues of economics, household income, poverty and unemployment.

Sustaining a Healthy Community – issues of public health – obesity, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, teen births, infant deaths, infant mortality, low birth rate, prenatal care, immunization, STD’s, access to care, uninsured, and oral health.

Discussion

- Larry Lee - Teen pregnancy is the root cause for generational poverty.
- Clint Sperber – It is important to note that infant deaths due to accidents is higher than the rate of death by HIV and homicide by firearm put together.
- Lisa von Seelen - Healthy Start is pushing for legislation for a FEMR Group to review all deaths. Exposure to violence while pregnant is also an indicator..

Achieving Educational Excellence – issues of education – educational attainment, free and reduced lunch, Kindergarten readiness, FCAT reading, non-promotion rates, graduation rate.

Discussion

- Chris Dzadovsky – There is research that shows 3rd grade reading levels are indicators in future prison planning.
- Vern Melvin – Were 70% of our children reading at grade level in 2006 and now only 50%?
- Genelle Yost – There have been six changes to the FCAT in the last 3 years. There is now a higher

level of expectation on the assessment. It is more difficult to reach the levels of proficiency now. This is the final year of the FCAT.

- Larry Lee – Representative Lee is asking for legislation for a pilot program in Fort Pierce to fund childhood literacy.
- Tony Loupe – There was a study done in Chicago that took a group of children in child care – one in a quality setting and one that was more of a babysitting service. Those in the quality center were more likely to have a job, own a home, and have money in a savings account.
- Tonya Andreacchio – in 2010-11 the Federal government changed the graduation rate and required all states to measure the same rates.
- Genelle Yost - Those students who transfer to college and earn a degree are not considered to have graduated.
- Sean Baldwin – So if we wanted to work on increasing graduations rates we cannot use this data. Sometimes GED's are consequence oriented and come after bad things happen. There is a GED program in the jail. Tony Loupe – The first year of VPK was in 2005-06. There were 1,500 students the first year and 2,700 now. There are 3,200 kindergarteners so Early Learning Coalition is getting a high percentage of them.

Keeping the Community Safe – issues of violence - delinquency referrals, marijuana, cigarette and alcohol usage, unintentional injuries, mortality rates, violent crime rates, gun violence, arrest rates,

Discussion

- John Bolduc – There has been a steady decline in the county, state and nation.
- Sean Baldwin - Community policing is more accepted, demographics are changing.
- Sean Baldwin – There are a small number of young men in gangs that are dealing with their conflicts by gunfire. Most of the guns recovered were stolen, but they do buy ammunition at Walmart which is great because they are being videotaped.
- Chris Dzadovsky – When he visited Pittsburg he noticed that all shell casings go to forensic analysis. Sean Baldwin – They used to be able to do that but four years ago the ATF took that away. He is trying to get it back. The FPPD is writing a grant to address the violence.
- Christine Epps – We have a disproportionate minority arrest rate.

Health Rankings – health outcomes, health factors (includes health behaviors, access and quality of care, social and economic factors, and physical environment).

Sean Boyle made a motion to nominate Clint Sperber as Chair of the Steering Committee and Tonya Andreacchio as Vice-Chair, seconded by Chris Dzadovsky. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion

- Chris Dzadovsky – He will go back to the Board of County Commission and ask them to look at this and fund it on some level as it is an economic development issue and the Economic Development Council needs to be at the table. We need to attract corporations and business to St. Lucie County. Focus money is needed to take care of these issues so corporations will want to come to St. Lucie.
- Larry Lee – There are vacant board seats and the new director of the Economic Development Council should be at the table. That and education are the two most fundamental areas. The other seat is a faith network member we should address.
- Sean Baldwin – Is addressing Faith and the Lincoln Park Pastors Association has asked to be involved. He would like to invite them to sit at the table.
- Christine Epps - Other Roundtable members also have ideas about potential faith members.
- Chris Dzadovsky – Will ask the Board to impress on the new director of the Economic Development Council to come to the meetings. They fund them \$250,000 a year.
- Larry Lee – Collectively the members at the table have thousands of employees and big budgets. We should be able to produce some results.

VI. Prioritizing Indicators

Each Roundtable member completed a worksheet, prioritizing what they believe are the top indicators. The final tally showed the following results:

- 1 – Violent Crime Rate Child
- 2 – Child Maltreatment
- 3 – Violent Crime Rate Adult
- 4 – Reading on Grade Level by 3 Grade
- 5 – Infant Mortality
- 7 – Tied: Children below Poverty Level; Kindergarten Readiness; Juvenile Arrest/Referrals
- 9 – Unemployment
- 10 – Childhood Obesity
- 11 – Prenatal Care
- 12.5 – Tied: Oral Health; Graduation Rates
- 14 – Educational Attainment
- 15 – Low Birth Weight
- 16 – Uninsured Children
- 17 – Unintentional Injury/Death
- 18 – Reading on Grade Level by 10th Grade
- 19 – Teen Birth Rate
- 20 – Household Income
- 22 – Diabetes Deaths
- 23 – Non-promotion Rates
- 24.5 – Tied: Sexually Transmitted Disease; HIV/AIDS Infection
- 26.5 – Tied: Number of Physicians; Cigarette Use
- 28 – Immunizations
- 29 – Alcohol Use
- 30 – Marijuana Use

Discussion

- Christine Epps – We need to take at least the first five and start formulating a goal to give to the Steering Committee. They will look further at the other indicators and will be charged with looking at a scientific best-practice framework for the approval of the Roundtable. This group needs to set benchmarks and the Steering Committee will come back with strategy and best practice.
- Sean Baldwin – We should not assign a specific number or percentage. Let the Steering Committee recommend a specific objective and make sure objectives are achievable. They will do the research, establishing benchmarks, analysis, finding a framework, and strategies.
- Sean Boyle – Agrees with Sean Baldwin. We should narrow it down to five or six and combine some.
- Sean Baldwin – They need to take these priorities, narrow down the target, give the Roundtable the framework and strategies. Would like it if we use the same sort of model as the HIV/AIDS curriculum.
- Boyle – Just because something isn't a priority we won't stop working on it. We will continue to address it and we're not going to shift resources away from what's already working such as the teen birth rate.
- Linda Bartz – When she was doing the ranking she was thinking that same thing. She didn't put oral health as high because we are working on it and will continue to work on it but that doesn't mean it's important.
- Clint Sperber – Don't set us up for failure. To understand a strategy we need to know what resources are available, from a funding prospective too.
- Christine Epps – The Steering Committee will get the same presentation as we did today and they will dissect it and come up with strategies on how to improve these areas.

- Chris Dzadoovsky – This will be similar to Restoring the Village. We need to have community partners as resources.
- Sean Baldwin – We will not implement any strategy until the community has signed off on it. This is extremely important.
- Chris Dzadoovsky – Asked for members to support the County Commission engage Dr. Kennedy and the University of Cincinnati to observe what we have done and focus on funding opportunities. Help us refocus our funding sources to make the best possible decisions.
- Christine Epps – In the last Comprehensive Plan we were missing the evaluation piece. We have to evaluate every year. The University of Cincinnati’s evaluation of what we’ve done would be fantastic.
- Sean Baldwin – We need to re-thing the Level for each agency funding and also fundraising efforts. The Roundtable does not need to do fundraising. This is taking away resources from other agencies. The Executive Director should not be working on fundraising but on strategies. As the economy gets better and budgets get better a priority should be the funding of the Roundtable. If we do want to fundraise then we need to hire somebody to do it, not our Executive Director.
- Chris Dzadoovsky – Proposed that each agency provide an extra \$5,000. That would be substantial. If we focus on the economic development approach that changes the dynamics. People don’t want to hear social services.
- Sean Boyle – Agrees that the Executive Director doesn’t need to do fundraising.
- Ron Parrish – We need to look at funding resources today and if they are sufficient. Likes the idea of each member stepping up to the plate a little closer.
- Chris Dzadoovsky – There are millions of dollars available through County Commission Community Services. He will talk to his Board about the Roundtable being woefully underfunded. We should have a presentation to show to the funders that will be looking at these things.
- Linda Hudson – To follow up we need to show the presentation to the Economic Development Council because they are south county focused and of a totally different mindset. Their board and members need a presentation of major highlights.
- Ron Parrish – This is a lot of great dialogue with great momentum and we can’t let it slip by. We can make a difference in St. Lucie County.